

KAISER WILL  
RECALL PLAN  
TO BLOCKADEBut England Must First  
Withdraw Its Seizure  
of Foodstuffs

## AMBASSADOR REPORTS

New Note From Berlin Is Pre-  
sented to State Department  
at Washington.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—The German ambassador today presented to the state department a note from his government that Germany stands ready to consider receding from its announced intention of attacking British merchantmen if Great Britain will withdraw its efforts to prevent foodstuffs going to Germany for the civilian population.

The note declares Germany's plan to attack British merchantmen was a retaliatory measure adopted because of alleged violation of international law by Great Britain in trying to starve non-combatant population. The German government is ready to withdraw from its purpose as expressed in the naval war zone decree, as far as it applies to merchant vessels, as soon as Great Britain, either of her own volition or as a result of representations from neutrals, expresses a willingness to return to the usual practice of international law on the question of foodstuffs. The note adds that Germany has information that English merchantmen are being armed and have orders to sail in groups for protection and would try to sink submarines. It is declared there was no question of searching them, but the result would be German ships would fight them because they are now held to be warships. It was stated the note was not a reply to the recent American note to Germany in regard to the war zone decree. A more comprehensive reply to that communication is expected soon. Today's note constitutes a sort of intermediary reply, possibly presented to this government because the date when the war zone decree goes into effect, the 15th, is so close at hand.

Allies Propose Tightening Lines.  
London, Feb. 15.—In the house of commons, Churchill, first lord of the admiralty, intimated further action would be taken by the allies to prevent importation of foodstuffs in neutral ships to Germany.

London, Feb. 15.—An Athens dispatch says because of failure of Turkey to satisfy Greece for an insult to a naval attaché of the Greek legation at Constantinople the Greek minister felt compelled to leave Constantinople yesterday, leaving the secretary of the legation in charge.

Japan Orders Expulsions.  
Yokohama, Feb. 15.—Japan authorities have ordered expulsion from Japan of four Germans and one Englishman, found guilty of disturbing the peace order.

DAYTON THREATENS JAIL  
TERMS FOR MINERS' CHIEF

Wheeling, W. Va., Feb. 15.—Direct testimony that Federal Judge Dayton of northern West Virginia had spoken derogatory of the United Mine Workers of America was presented to the subcommittee of the house of representatives investigating charges against Dayton when the hearing opened here today. James Oates, an organizer of the Mine Workers, testified while a colliers' contempt case was being tried he had heard Judge Dayton say: "If I had John P. White here I would give him 12 months in jail."

AUSTRIA STRIKES  
PORT OF ANTIVARIKING NICHOLAS AND FAMILY  
WATCH AEROPLANES FROM  
PALACE WINDOWS.

Cettinje, Montenegro, Feb. 15.—The Austrian fleet Sunday morning made a sortie from the Gulf of Cattaro and began bombardment of the port of Antivari, Montenegro.

The royal family of Montenegro was subjected yesterday in its winter residence near Lake Scutari to machine gun fire from two Austrian aeroplanes. King Nicholas and the queen and princess watched the aerial raiders from the palace windows. Several bullets from the aeroplanes fell near them.

## THAT DIMINISHING LOAF

LOBBY PROBE  
FOR SHIP BILL  
IS NEW MOVE

Washington, Feb. 15.—Investigation of all charges of influences at work for and against the administration ship bill was ordered today by the senate.

Administration democrats and filibustering republicans unanimously voted a resolution to look into charges of lobbying by the so-called shipping trust and inquire into any negotiations by administration officials to buy beligerent ships.

Some senators were of the opinion trust and inquire into any negotiations prolonged and make improbable the passage of the ship bill before March 1, practically assuring an extra session if the president adhered to his determination to press the measure.

WAUKEGAN PASTOR ENDS  
SLEEP DURING SERVICE

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 15.—No one slept in the First Congregational church at Waukegan yesterday.

It was the first time in several weeks that the pastor, Rev. J. H. Waterbury, had not been forced to suspend while the janitor clamped a Maxim silencer on the jaw of some member.

Last Sunday Rev. Mr. Waterbury decided that he was tired of "keeping watch over the sleeping." "There are three people in this audience last asleep," he said. "Unless the sleepers remain at home or stay awake while here I will announce their names from the pulpit at the evening service."

Fifteen members of the congregation came to the pastor after the meeting denying that they had been asleep.

"I only happened to see three," said the pastor, "but evidently others either were asleep or felt like 'snoozing.'"

The pastor decided to help any member of his flock who wanted to reform from the sleeping habit. He cut his sermon to 23 minutes, and announced that if that proved too long he would "cut it some more."

"The only sleeper in the church was the beam supporting the structure," said the pastor. "I simply had to take some measure to keep the people awake, and thought that if I announced that I would expose them it might cure."

## Wheat Prices Up Again.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 15.—Renewal of European purchasing amounting to millions of bushels ran wheat prices up today. Before the session was half over May advanced five cents to \$1.59½, and July rose four cents to \$1.33½.

Wheat prices closed 4¼ to 5¼ above Saturday night's.

## Emperor Back in Petrograd.

Petrograd, Feb. 15.—Emperor Nicholas today returned from a visit to the Russian army headquarters at the front.

## Election Officials Indicted.

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 15.—Six men, including both democratic and republican election officials of the Eighteenth ward, were indicted today for alleged frauds in connection with the recent registration.

## The War Today

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.

After a long period of inactivity fighting between Austria and Montenegro has been resumed. The long drawn struggle in the Carpathians shows no sign of approaching end. In Bukovina another important contest is in progress. A decisive battle in northern Poland is looked for when the Russians reach positions on which they decide to make their stand. German newspapers continue to comment on the American notes, some taking a stand that this country's representations to Great Britain are less vigorous than those to Germany. It is asserted the fault is England's on account of the use of the American flag.

Threatened submarine blockade of the British Isles is still an absorbing topic among English newspapers and English people. The report that American Ambassador Gerard has been requested to meet Emperor William at once on the eastern battle front is taken in London to mean that Berlin probably will make prompt reply to the American note to Germany. The English press regards the note to Germany as a virtual ultimatum, and declares Great Britain cannot forego her claim to the right to use a neutral flag in case of necessity. Indication that England is regarding the German threat more than a bluff is found in the fact that liners were arriving at English ports today with lifeboats slung out watered and provisioned.

The Berlin Lokal Anzeiger says it is evident the United States is pressing the matter with the same forcefulness in London as in Berlin. There is no difference in tone in the two notes. The Morning Post has a different opinion and calls the American note to Great Britain notably different from the German, "in its soft and flute-like tone." The Tages Zeitung says the United States in the note to Great Britain with "helpful care" leaves England and calls the American note to Great Britain a "convenient door of escape." The Montag Zeitung asks "What harm can America do Germany? She has no army," the paper says, "and her fleet would not dare approach nearer our shores than the English does. English expulsion of Germans from America would mean her ruin. It is ridiculous to take America's threats in earnest."

Germans are advancing rapidly everywhere in east Prussia, Berlin says. In northern Poland considerable gains are reported. Today's official communications both from Paris and Berlin claim small victories in the western theatre yesterday.

MEMORIAL HONOR  
FOR MAINE'S DEADPATRIOTIC SOCIETIES AND ARMY  
TAKE PART IN ARLINGTON  
SERVICE.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—Memorial services for the dead of the battleship Maine were held in Arlington cemetery today. Patriotic organizations of the United States, troops, marines and bluejackets participated. Cuban Minister De Cespedes and Representative Kahn of California were the principal speakers. A feature was the placing of floral tributes from President Wilson and the president of Cuba on the Maine anchor and mainmast.

ITALY TO JOIN  
WAR AS ALLY  
OF GERMANY?

Rome — (Sunday.) — The Idea National, published in the interest of the nationalist party, prints the following: "Before the end of February Prince Von Buelow, German ambassador to Italy, will present to the Italian government a concrete proposal for Italian participation in the war on the side of Germany. This consists of the cession by Austria of the province of Trent and rectification of the east Italian frontier by the addition of a strip of land as far as Isogna river. In addition Germany will, pledge herself to conclude a new treaty with Italy which will afford protection of Italy's Mediterranean interests."

"In exchange, Italy will take part at once in the war. She will occupy Tunis, held by Turkey, and drive the English from Egypt, which will return under the dominion of the sultan of Turkey. The Italian fleet will attack Anglo-French naval forces in the Mediterranean."

At the conclusion of one of his conversations with Italian statesmen, Von Buelow, according to the Idea National, said: "Either Italy will be friendly to us or we will treat her worse than we are treating England."

## HOLDS A STRAIGHT FLUSH

But New York Guest Came With a  
Royal Straight.

Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 15.—In a quiet little game of draw poker played in the apartments of a Knoxville man Saturday night, a well known New Yorker, who visits here at frequent intervals, held a pat royal straight flush on clubs against a nine high straight flush on diamonds held by his host and is said to have won a big sum.

PIEDMONT'S SNOW STORM  
IS HEAVIEST IN HISTORY

Turin, Feb. 15.—Snowfall in the Piedmont region is heavier than any heretofore known. In the Alps all wires are down. Telegraph poles are invisible because of the depth of the snow. At the famous St. Bernard hospice the snow is 25 feet deep.

## THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for  
Rock Island, Davenport, Moline  
and Vicinity.

Fair tonight and Tuesday, slightly colder tonight with the lowest temperature about 20 degrees.  
Temperature at 7 a. m., 32. Highest yesterday, 36; lowest last night, 31.  
Velocity of wind at 7 a. m., 13 miles per hour.  
Precipitation, none.  
Relative humidity at 7 p. m., 76; at 7 a. m., 73.  
Stage of water, 6 feet, a rise of 1.5 foot in last 48 hours.  
J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

ASTRONOMICAL EVENTS.  
Evening stars: Mercury, Mars, Saturn, Jupiter. Morning star: Venus. Planet Mercury in conjunction with the moon about 3 a. m.

SAY SCHOLES  
WILL BE NEW  
HOUSE CHIEFDry Republicans Are Now  
Agreed to Support  
Peoria Member

## IS CONSIDERED AS WET

But Believed to Be Safest of  
His Kind—Is Opposed by  
Anti-Saloon League.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 15.—Several republican representatives who are classed as "drys" and who last week supported William Graham, a "dry," for the speakership, today started a boom for Robert Scholes of Peoria for speaker. These republicans insisted they have enough votes to nominate Scholes at the republican caucus tomorrow and if nominated he can be elected on the first ballot in the house. "Dry" republicans stated although Scholes is considered "wet," it appears inevitable that a "wet" will be elected and that proposed "dry" legislation would be safer with Scholes, than in the hands of any other "wet." It is said the anti-saloon league will not support Scholes or Shanahan.

F. J. HENEY, FOE OF GRAFT,  
WEDS CAMPAIGN MANAGER

Los Angeles, Feb. 15.—Francis J. Heney, who became famous through his prosecution of the San Francisco graft cases and who later was a candidate for the United States senate, Saturday married Mrs. Edna Van Winkle of San Francisco in Los Angeles. Mrs. Van Winkle was campaign manager for Mr. Heney during his senatorial race.

PATMONT GETS A FRIEND  
TO CONFESS HE SET FIRE

Denver, Col., Feb. 15.—After a 2,000-mile chase, begun in Brooklyn a month ago, Rev. Louis R. Patmont, Christian clergyman, who was kidnapped in Westville, Ill., and held captive 51 days, has run down another minister here and forced him to confess that he burned Christ's chapel in Newark, N. J., April 10, 1913, for which crime Patmont is now under indictment.

Patmont obtained the confession and affidavit from the man, who was Rev. Macar Lubich, after a footrace through a raging snowstorm which ended when Patmont felled the other with a blow of his fist.

Lubich in his confession said he had set fire to the church in order to collect \$1,000 insurance from the Newark Fire Insurance company. For this crime Patmont on the sworn statement of his former wife, was indicted.

Lubich also admitted he had stolen clothes from Patmont in New York six years ago, when Lubich arrived from Russia, a destitute clergyman.

Armed with the affidavit, Patmont left last evening to go to Columbia, Mo., to obtain affidavits in connection with his pursuit of his kidnappers of last year. He will then go to Newark.

Patmont, speaker of 12 languages, veteran of the Russo-Japanese war and at one time condemned to death as a leader of Russia's revolutionaries, says he will continue his efforts to apprehend the men who kidnapped him in Illinois and later caused him to hide in Detroit.

## Toy Balloons Cause Scare.

Ottawa, Canada, Feb. 15.—A dispatch from Brockville said the aeroplane scare of last night had been dispelled by finding the remnants of two toy balloons launched at Morrisburg, N. Y., in celebration of 100 years of peace between the United States and Canada.

RHEIMS CITIZENS  
LIVE IN CELLARSNEW YORKER DECLARES GER-  
MANY COULD LEVEL PLACE  
IN 30 MINUTES.

New York, Feb. 15.—German guns are less than three kilometers from Rheims, France, and could level that city in 20 minutes, according to Joseph Ringwalt of this city, who has returned from a visit to the wine growing section of France.

"The entire population of the city," he said, "about fifteen thousand, is living 50 feet underground in wine cellars, virtually bomb proof. There are 70,000,000 bottles of wine stored in the cellars in the Rheims district that cannot be exported because it cannot be moved." In his opinion Rheims cathedral was not damaged greatly.

FLOODS MENACING  
PEOPLE OF ITALYRIVER TIBER MORE THAN FIFTY  
FEET OUT OF NORMAL BANKS  
—TROOPS RESCUE.

Rome, Italy, Feb. 15.—Having just passed through a period of earthquakes, Italy is now facing a new peril in the form of floods. Everywhere streams are out of their banks due to heavy rainstorms. In lowlying quarters people have been driven from their homes or are prisoners in upper stories. Troops have been sent to aid in rescue work. In Rome the River Tiber, more than 50 feet out of its normal banks, is rising two inches an hour. Clearing weather today gives hope the waters will soon recede.

Leonine City, as the Vatican quarter is known, is in the lower part of Rome, and this section is generally flooded. Boats are the only means of progress. The water, however, has not reached the apostolic palace or St. Peter's.

Flood waters in the streets around St. Peter's have risen to a height of four feet eleven inches. Several walls collapsed, but without serious consequences.

ALLIES' BILL FOR  
YEAR TEN BILLIONGREAT BRITAIN SPENDING MORE  
THAN HER TWO AIDS, LLOYD  
GEORGE DECLARES.

London, Feb. 15.—In a statement explanatory of an arrangement made at a recent conference of the finance ministers of France and Russia and himself in Paris, Lloyd George told the house of commons today that the expenditures of the allies on the war would be \$10,000,000,000 during the current year, of which Great Britain was spending more money than were her two allies. The present war, Lloyd George said, was the most expensive in material, men and money ever waged. Great Britain, he said, could finance the war for five years out of the proceeds of her investments abroad and France about two or three years, although Russia, prodigiously rich in natural resources, was in a different position. It was decided at the conference of finance ministers in Paris not to issue a joint loan, he said.

SWEARS FALSELY  
AGAINST BECKERSO DECLARES IMPORTANT WIT-  
NESS IN CONVICTING PO-  
LICE LIEUTENANT.

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 15.—John B. Johnston, a New York lawyer, said here that James Marshall, the negro who was a witness in the case of Charles Becker, under sentence of death for the murder of Herman Rosenthal in New York, had signed a statement in the form of an affidavit to the effect that he swore falsely at the second trial of Becker. Marshall was arrested here on a minor charge and was released today. His wife is alleged to have made a remark in the presence of a newspaper man that Marshall had been an important witness in the Becker case.

When seen later in the day, according to Mr. Johnston, Marshall said he had sworn falsely in the Becker case. Marshall is said to have testified in the case that he saw Becker talking to "Bald Jack" Rose, "Bridgie" Webber and "Sam" Schepps. In the affidavit signed by Marshall Mr. Johnston said Marshall declares he did not know Rose, Webber or Schepps.

New York, Feb. 15.—District Attorney Charles A. Perkins declared in a statement that the testimony given by James Marshall at the trial of Police Lieutenant Charles Becker was secured from Marshall substantially as he afterwards gave it on the witness stand in the form of an affidavit within ten minutes after he was brought into the district attorney's office on his arrival in this city before the trial.

SALOONS IN DES MOINES  
TO CLOSE AT 6 P. M. TODAY

Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 15.—To prevent a repetition of Saturday night's scenes, attendant upon the order closing the 86 saloons in Des Moines, Mayor Hanna has issued instructions that the bar rooms must close today at 6 p. m. Under the motel law and the terms of the city's permit granting the extension until tonight, the saloons could have remained open until 9 o'clock. The liquor men said they would obey the orders.

Conditions which prevailed on the downtown streets Saturday night and numerous fights which resulted from excessive inebriation, caused Mayor Hanna's order. The rush to lay in stocks of "wet" goods brought an enormous business to the saloons Saturday, and a repetition of the rush is expected tomorrow.

Billy Sullivan Released.  
Chicago, Ill., Feb. 15.—William Sullivan, 14 years a catcher for the Chicago Americans, was unconditionally released today.

VERA CRUZ IS  
MEXICO SEAT  
AGENTS TOLDDiplomats May Be Forced  
to Go to Carranza Head-  
quarters There

## ARE BIDDEN BY LATTER

Expulsion of Spanish Minister  
Tends to Further Compli-  
cate Situation.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—While no official message had been received today by the state department or the Spanish embassy here as to the attitude of the Spanish government toward the expulsion of its minister from Mexico by General Carranza, press dispatches received from Madrid indicating that the matter would be adjusted through diplomatic channels, were credited by officials.

Another action of the Carranza government which may cause further complications for the diplomatic corps in Mexico city, was taken yesterday in the announcement that General Carranza, as first chief, is solely authorized to receive and pass upon diplomatic communications. This practically prohibits the diplomats in Mexico City from dealing with General Obregon, in command there, and may seriously affect the diplomatic activity of American consular agents who always have been instructed to deal with the de facto authorities, whoever they may be.

Representations made to subordinate generals, says the order now issued by the Carranza government, the text of which was given out here last night, "tends, even when made by persons actually accredited, to disrupt the unity which should prevail in the constitutional government and to belittle the authority of the first chief."

The order apparently will make it impossible for diplomatic representatives of foreign governments to deal with the Carranza government except by going to Vera Cruz, which they have been unable to do lest such action be construed as formal recognition. Already most of the diplomats at Mexico City have asked their governments for permission to leave, when the situation becomes intolerable, and some of them have been advised to use their own discretion.

Enrique Lorente, Washington representative of General Villa, gave out the following message from the latter, dated today, describing the capture of Guadalupe, the second largest city in Mexico:

"We made a truly triumphant entry into this beautiful city today. The enthusiasm which prevailed when I passed through the streets accompanied by only an escort was indescribable."

"The enthusiasm reached its maximum when I addressed the people from the balcony of the government palace. A proof of the high character of the people is that during the 30 hours during which the city was without authorities there were no disorders."

## Still Pursuing Enemy.

"I am pursuing the enemy, who have been engaged at Bajacuran, killing 120 and capturing 200 horses and mules, many cannon and one machine gun. The pursuit is being maintained vigorously and I have learned that the Carranzistas are fleeing in the direction of Zapotlan."

"In the state of San Luis Potosi, near Cuidad Del Maiz, a battalion under Colonel Emiliano Serrabia, of our forces, defeated 2,000 men under General Acosta, killing many and capturing scores of prisoners and equipment."

"The attempted capture of Monterey by the Carranza troops has failed utterly."

## Danzville, Ill.—A local manufactur-

ing company is preparing a bid for the manufacture of 1,500,000 wire cutters for the French army. Sixty firms in the United States are bidding on the same work.

AMERICANS HURT  
IN CARNIVAL RIOT

ONE PANAMA POLICEMAN KILLED

AND TWO WOUNDED IN  
CLASH IN CITY.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 15.—A report from Brigadier General Edwards, in command of the canal zone, says: "In a carnival riot in Panama City between Panamanians, soldiers and Americans, 23 Americans were wounded, two from gunshot. One Panama policeman was killed and two wounded."

Edwards is investigating, but it is hard to fix the blame, he added.